

Charlotte Home-Democrat.

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Charlotte, N.C.

NEW SERIES—VOLUME XVI.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1886.

OLD SERIES: VOLUME XXXIV.—NUMBER 1757.

THE
Charlotte Home-Democrat.
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
YATES & STRONG.

TERMS—Two Dollars for one year.
One Dollar for six months.
Subscription price due in advance.

Entered at the Post Office in Charlotte, N. C., as second class matter, according to the rules of the P. O. Department.

T. O. SMITH & CO.,
WHOLESALE
RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
May 11, 1884.

CENTRAL HOTEL,
(Under New Management)
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Newly Furnished and Equipped
In the best style.
Hot and Cold Baths.—Patrons solicited.
Give us a trial. Rates, \$2 and \$2.50 per day.
SCOVILLE & BROCKENBROUGH,
Proprietors.
Feb. 26, 1886.

J. P. McCOMBS, M. D.,
Offers his professional services to the citizens of Charlotte and surrounding country. All calls, both night and day, promptly attended to.
Office in Brown's building, up stairs, opposite Charlotte Hotel.
Jan. 1, 1885.

BURWELL & WALKER,
Attorneys at Law,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Will practice in the State and Federal Courts.
Office in Law Building.
Jan. 1, 1884.

HUGH W. HARRIS,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Office, First door west of Court House.
Jan. 1, 1886.

HERIOT CLARKSON,
Attorney at Law,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Will practice in all the Courts of this State.
Prompt attention given to collections.
Nov. 7, 1884.

OSBORNE & MAXWELL,
Attorneys at Law,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Will practice in the State and Federal Courts.
Offices 1 and 3 Law Building.
July 3, 1885.

HAMILTON C. JONES,
Attorney at Law,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Will practice in the State Courts, and in all the Federal Courts in the Western District.
Jan. 8, 1886.

DR. M. A. BLAND,
Dentist,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Office in Brown's building, opposite Charlotte Hotel.
Gas used for the painless extraction of teeth.
Feb. 15, 1884.

DR. GEO. W. GRAHAM,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Practice limited to the
EYE, EAR AND THROAT.
Jan. 1, 1884.

HOFFMAN & ALEXANDER,
Surgeon Dentists,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Office over A. R. Nisbet & Bro's store. Office hours from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.
Jan. 1, 1886.

W. H. FARRIOR & BRO.,
[Opposite the Central Hotel.]
Practical Watch-Makers and Jewelers,
Charlotte, N. C.
Keep a full stock of handsome Jewelry, and Clocks, Spectacles, etc., which they will sell at a fair price.
Dealers in Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silver and Jewelry-Plated Ware.
Repairing of Jewelry, Watches, Clocks, &c., done promptly and satisfaction assured.
Store opposite the Central Hotel.
Jan. 1, 1886.

SPRINGS & BURWELL,
Grocers and Provision Dealers,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Have always in stock Coffee, Sugar, Molasses, Syrup, Mackerel, Soap, Starch, Meat, Lard, Ham, Flour, Grass Seeds, Plows, &c., which we offer to the Wholesale and Retail trade. All are invited to try us, from the smallest to the largest.
Jan. 1, 1884.

R. A. LEE & CO.,
Cotton Buyers,
Office in the Chambers-Library Building, College Street.
Sellers will do well to see us. If a do not buy our last bid shall be the value of the cotton.
Jan. 30, 1885.

HARRISON WATTS,
Cotton Buyer,
Corner Trade and College Sts., up Stairs,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
Oct. 14, 1884.

THE CHARLOTTE
COTTON AND PRODUCE EXCHANGE
Corner Trade and College Sts.,
Charlotte, N. C.
S. H. PHELAN, Proprietor, member
New York Cotton Exchange
and Chicago Board of Trade.
J. F. LYON,
Manager.
Dec. 4, 1885.

A Methodist Church paper gives the following, which is both ideal and real: "Our Church festival is over. The treasury has \$53.19 net gain—that is, credit side. The debit shows an appalling list of misunderstandings; several cases of dyspepsia aggravated by late suppers eaten on the supposition that Church suppers are not injurious; a thin attendance at prayer-meeting the evening following; a spirit of emulation because we cleared \$1.79 more than our Baptist neighbors; a spirit of bitterness because some one said their singing was better than ours."—*Christian Harvester.*

TRUSTEE'S SALE.
By virtue of a Deed of Trust executed by L. S. Hurdle and wife, dated 18th day of August, 1885, and registered in Book 34, page 385, in the Register's office of Mecklenburg county, I will offer for sale at public auction, before the Court House in Charlotte, on Monday, the 17th day of May, 1886, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, a certain Lot of LAND described in said Deed of Trust which is situated in Ward No. 2 in the City of Charlotte, on C Street, between Hill and Stonewall streets.
Terms made known on day of sale.
T. R. ROBERTSON,
April 16, 1886. 5w Trustee.

SALE OF CITY LOT.
By virtue of authority granted to me by Geo. F. Coleman and wife, by Deed dated January 5, 1885, and registered in the office of the Register of Mecklenburg county, in Book 30, page 585, I will sell at public auction at the Court House in Charlotte, on Monday, the 3rd day of May, 1886, the LOT described in said deed, to-wit: the eastern half of Lot 394 in the city of Charlotte, fronting 48 1/2 feet on "A" Street, extending back 108 feet, and containing the Lots of C. Dowd, D. M. Rieger and Thos. Allison.
Terms, Cash.
A. G. BRENNER,
April 2, 1886. 5w Trustee.

Valuable Machinery
FOR SALE.
I will sell all my Machinery situated in the town of Matthews, consisting of one 30-Horse Power Return Flue BOILER, and 15-Horse Power Erie City ENGINE, and 15-Horse Power Saw; one 50-Saw Half Cotton GIN; one 100-Saw Press; one 30-Inch Cotton Mill; one 20-Inch Franklin Planing Machine, together with all Shuffling and Belting in good running order. Will sell any part or the whole with Lots containing it.
For prices, &c., write to or call on the undersigned at Matthews, N. C.
D. M. FESHERMAN,
March 26, 1886. 4f

SWAMP LANDS FOR SALE.
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.
State Board of Education.
Raleigh, April 10, 1886.
Until July 1st, 1886, sealed cash proposals will be received at this office, addressed to the Secretary of the Board, for the purchase of Lands belonging to the Board in Fender and Duplin counties, and known as Angola Bay, including Gum Swamp.
This advertisement is made in accordance with section 2329 of the Code.
A map recently made can be seen at this office, describing the lands and locating the public roads constructed through them by the State. The whole tract is estimated to contain 44,735 Acres. There are of this amount about 20,000 Acres of Reed Land. In Gum Swamp there are estimated to be 4,885 Acres, about one-third of which is well timbered with very fine Cypress, and the balance with Gum, Maple, &c.
The bids may be by the Acre for the whole tract, or an aggregate sum for the whole. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Capitalists who are looking after timber, good farming lands, or lands for stock raising, will find it to their advantage to examine these lands. Gen. W. G. Lewis, Engineer, Goldsboro, N. C., will show them and furnish information as to their character.
S. M. FINGER, Supt. Pub. Ins.,
Secretary State Board of Education.
April 16, 1886. 6w

NOTICE.
All persons are warned against trading for twenty-five Shares of the Stock of the Traders' National Bank of Charlotte, issued to the late John L. McDowell, and notice is hereby given that application will be made at the expiration of 30 days for a duplicate of the lost Shares of Stock.
F. B. McDOWELL,
Executor of R. L. McDowell.
April 2, 1886. 4w

Administrator's Notice.
All persons having claims against the Estate of C. E. Eaton, deceased, are hereby notified to present them to me, duly attested, on or before March 23d, 1887. Persons indebted to said Estate are requested to settle immediately.
HUGH W. HARRIS,
Public Administrator.

Administrator's Notice.
All persons having claims against the Estate of Alex. Hayes, deceased, are hereby notified to present them to me, duly attested, on or before March 23d, 1887. Persons indebted to said Estate are requested to settle immediately.
HUGH W. HARRIS,
Public Administrator.

Another Installment
OF
NEW GOODS
The popular Homespun Cloth, 64 inches wide.
Full line of colors in Spring shades of Jersey Cloth at 62 1/2 cents per yard.
My Black Goods is complete, embracing everything new and desirable. Ask to see my leader in
Black Cashmere,
Best in the city for the price.
Beautiful line of WHITE GOODS and EMBROIDERIES. Call and see them whether you are ready to purchase or not.
Buy Warner's Corset and Seigle's Dollar Shirt.
T. L. SEIGLE,
March 5, 1886.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
And all the leading PATENT MEDICINES
for sale by
R. H. JORDAN & CO.
March 26, 1886.

GROCERIES, ETC
THE BEST STOCK
OF
Heavy and Fancy Groceries,
CONFECTIONERIES,
Fruits, Canned Goods, etc., can be found at
A. R. & W. B. NISBET.
Central Barber Shop.
GREY TOOLE has again assumed control and proprietorship of the "Central Barber Shop" opposite Central Hotel Building, where he will be glad to see all his old customers and many new ones. He guarantees satisfaction to all who may be pleased to patronize him.
GREY TOOLE.
Jan. 1, 1885.

Questions and Answers.
Our little boy, Lorraine, four years old, with inquisitive eyes and curls of gold, was told at the breakfast table one morn that a dear little sister to him was born.
"Where mother?" he said, "I guess she'll be dead."
"Isn't it funny; is she good or bad?"
"I'm had sometimes; I hope she is good, I wonder if she's like 'The Babies in the Wood'?"
"Now, papa, please tell me who brought her here?"
"The doctor, my child, the doctor, my dear."
"Say! why don't they bring the baby down stairs?"
To eat her breakfast, and then say her prayers?"
"The baby can't eat, for teeth she has none; Never mind now, eat your breakfast, my son."
The boy straightened up and, filled with surprise, opening wide his inquisitive eyes
Said, "Papa, tell doctor to take her away And finish her, so she can eat and play. I guess I don't want a sister dear, Without any teeth, like a chicken, here."

Life in the Deep Sea.
Perhaps no more remarkable additions to human knowledge have been made during the last twenty years than those pertaining to the oceans, whose dark abysses have now become comparatively familiar regions. The physical features have been quite completely determined, while the life of the deep-sea organisms has been revealed. The most extensive explorations were made by the British expedition on the Challenger, which returned home in 1876 after three and a half years of investigation in all the oceans. By this famous expedition thousands of new organisms were discovered, in all localities and at all depths in the sea, and have been or are now being described by specialists in all quarters of the world. There seems to be no part of the ocean bed so deep, so dark, so still, or where the pressure is so great as to have effectively raised a barrier to life in some of its many forms. Even in the greater depths all the great divisions of the animal kingdom are represented. Descending farther seaward from the borders of the continents, species and the number of individuals become fewer and fewer, till a minimum is reached in the greatest depths farthest from continental land. In the adaptation of organisms to deep-sea conditions curious modifications have occurred, such as the disappearance or enlargement of the eyes, the elongation of fine and antennae, the increase in size and decrease in number of eggs, and the development of phosphorescent organs.

Trained Elephants.
The winter quarters for the animals connected with Mr. Barnum's circus are at Bridgeport, Conn., and the Standard of that city gives the following account of one of the trained elephants. Among the curious things done by the twenty-one trained elephants in the Barnum London show, is a scene where one elephant, dressed as a clown, walks into the ring and sits down in a chair. Reaching out his trunk he picks up a dinner-bell on the table in front of him and rings it for dinner. A servant enters with a loaded tray, and places a square meal upon the table. The clown elephant then helps himself gracefully to the various dishes, picks up a champagne bottle filled with water, and empties it into his mouth. He then takes a napkin and wipes both sides of his mouth. The servant removes the tray of dishes, and the elephant, picking up a palm leaf fan with his trunk, leans back in his chair and leisurely fans himself. Prof. Artinghall, his trainer, proposed teaching him to smoke a pipe of tobacco, but Mr. Barnum remarked that his performers and army of employees were men of exemplary character, and his clown elephant should not be permitted to demoralize them by setting them bad examples. While this ludicrous and amazing display of animal intelligence is being exhibited, a dozen other elephants are busy in the same ring. Three of them are playing at see-saw; one is rolling a barrel around the ring with his forehead, another is turning the handle of a large organ, while still others are standing on their heads at the top of high pedestals.

TELLING THE TRUTH IN SCHOOL.—Edward Everett Hale, in a recent address, made an interesting statement concerning the Boston Latin school when he was one of its pupils, some fifty years ago. "I am quite sure," he said, "that even cowardly boys of the school would have been more afraid to tell a lie than of any consequences of telling the truth."
He attributed this high tone not to the discipline of the school, nor to the example of the teachers, but to the feeling of the boys themselves. "It was a tone given by the school," he remarks. "It was a thing understood among them that a boy who would lie was a cowardly and mean fellow, and as such was to be policed out by his fellow pupils until he had learned better."
Boys are so susceptible to the public opinion of their school, that it requires more courage than human nature ordinarily possesses for a boy to do wrong. Hence, the anxious solicitude of good teachers to get the public opinion of their schools sound and rational.—*Youth's Companion.*

DESPERATION.—Drunk men are nearly always desperate, but Capt. Todd, of the British steamer Sarah Ann, reports a remarkable case. He sighted a dismasted vessel on March 7th, and sent a life-boat to her. The vessel was a gale and in bad condition. The boat took four men, but the captain and mate, both drunk, declared they would go down with the vessel, and they held back a little boy who was crying to get into the boat. It is believed all perished in the sea.—*Exchange.*

Great Britain spends \$625,000, 000 annually strong drink; all her missionary societies, including the great Bible Society, collect only \$5,000, 000.

JEWELRY.
We desire to call attention to our Stock of Gold and Roll Plate Chains, For Ladies and Gentlemen.
Vest and Fob Chains, Mikado Chains, Cuff Buttons, Bracelets, Necklaces, Rings, Scarf Pins, Lace Pins, Lockets and Charms, Gold and Silver Thimbles.
Largest Stock of Silver-Ware
In Charlotte.
HALES & BOYNE,
Successors to A. Hales & Son,
West Trade Street, Charlotte, N. C.
March 19, 1886.

Potatoes.
On hand, a large lot of EASTERN YAM SWEET POTATOES at
S. M. HOWELL'S.
April 9, 1886.

Weather Wisdom in Birds and Nature.
The man who is out of doors at sunrise can form a pretty accurate opinion of what the day will be. If just before sunrise the sky—especially in the west—is suffused with red, rain generally follows in the course of the day. In winter, often snow. If, however, it be frosty weather, the downfall is sometimes delayed. On the other hand, if the sky be a dull gray, and the sun rises clear, gradually dispersing the vapors, it will be fine. If he retire behind the clouds, and there are reddish streaks about it, it will rain. Should the sun, later in the day, shine through a grey watery haze, it will probably be a rainy night.

The sunset is very unreliable. Often a beautiful sunset will be followed by a bad day. After a rainy day, suddenly at sunset, in the far west, will appear a magnificent streak of crimson (not copper-color)—this generally foretells a fine day. A tinted halo round the sun at setting occurs in long continued rainy weather. A halo round the moon, especially if some distance from the horizon, is a sure indication of downfall at hand.

Rainbows are unreliable, except they occur in the morning, when rain may be expected. Sun-dogs, and fragments of prismatic colors during the day, show continued unsettled weather. A dazzling metallic lustre on foliage, during a changeless day in summer, precedes a change.

High piled up masses of white cloud in a blue sky, during winter, indicate snow or hail. If small, dark clouds beat below the upper ones, moving faster than they, rain will follow, as it will, in the morning, low-hanging, pale brown, smoke-like clouds are floating about. Red-tinted clouds, light up, at evening, are followed by mist, occasionally by rain.

Mists at evening over low lying ground, or near a river, precede fine and warm days. If a mist in the morning clears off as the sun gets higher, it will be fine; but if it settles down again after lifting a little, rain is at hand. No dew in the morning is mostly followed by rain; and a heavy dew in the evening by a fine day. Rain follows two or three consecutive hours of clear sky, and on the day-time is usually followed by frost at night. If, after rain, drops of water still hang on the branches and twigs, and to window-frames, the rain will return; but if they fall, and the wood-work dries, fine weather is at hand.

Stones turn damp before wet; at the same time it can be observed that the fact of their doing so does not invariably indicate rain, for they will do so occasionally before heat.

Smoke descending heavily to the ground is a sign of very doubtful weather.

Objects at great distances, which are generally indistinctly seen, or even not seen at all, sometimes loom out clear and distinct. When this happens, bad weather or change of wind ensues. A well-known instance of this is the Isle of Wight, as seen from Dover. If the opposite shore is clearly seen, there is rain about. If, at night, after being blown out and exposed to the outer air, the wick of a candle continues to smoulder a long time, the next day will be fine. Green colored sky long continued unsettled bad weather, often long continued.

If, on a fine day, the dust suddenly rises in a revolving, spiral column, rain is near.

The howling of the wind indicates, in most houses, but not invariably, that downfall is near. In some houses, owing to their construction, the wind always moans. Wherever the wind is at the time of the vernal equinox (March 21, and thereabouts), that will be the prevailing wind from South-west. If the contrary is clearly seen, there is rain about. If, at night, after being blown out and exposed to the outer air, the wick of a candle continues to smoulder a long time, the next day will be fine. Green colored sky long continued unsettled bad weather, often long continued.

Swine, before rain, are unusually noisy and restless. Swallows in fine weather will fly high, and at the approach of rain, close to the ground; but the latter does not apply if the day is cold, in which case they hawk very low.

Common sparrows washing vigorously in a puddle on the road, or at the edge of running water, is a sure sign of rain. A baker, who kept a parrot in the dry atmosphere of the bake-ovens, noticed that a few hours before rain the bird took to its bath, flapping, and splashing water, and preening her feathers.—*Cassell's Family Magazine.*

Useful to All.
If your coal fire is low, throw in a tablespoonful of salt and it will help it very much.
A tablespoonful of turpentine boiled with white clothes will greatly aid the whitening process.
The best treatment for sprains and bruises is the application of salt water of such temperature as may be agreeable. Mixtures of two parts of glycerine, one part of ammonia and a little rosewater will always whiten and soften the hands.
In cooking meats too much salt has been used, add a tablespoonful of vinegar and one teaspoonful of sugar.
If brooms are tipped in hot sud once a week they will last much longer and always sweep like the traditional "new broom."
The best remedy for bleeding at the nose, as given by Dr. Gleason at one of his lectures, is the vigorous motion of the jaws as if chewing.
Lamp chimneys are easily cleaned by holding them over the steam from a tea kettle and then rubbing with a soft cloth, finally polishing with paper.

COUGH SYRUP.—My little boys are just through with the whooping cough. Perhaps one would like the recipe of the syrup I gave them. It is good. One ounce each of thoroughwort, slippery elm, flax seed, and licorice stick, simmered together in one quart of water, till the strength is entirely out, strain, add one quart of best molasses, one-half pound of loaf sugar, simmer all together, and when cold bottle tight. Dose one teaspoonful three times every day.

Have a Home.
There are a multitude every year who are commencing home life. With hands and hearts linked together, they enter upon their new stage of existence. To such the voice of experience says, have a home. Do not hang about hotels and boarding-houses; keep house if there is only one room in it, provided there is enough in the firm to do it. It is a stretched policy to live a nomadic, board-ing-house life, in trunks and hand boxes, in the midst of idleness and flirtation, and finally, after years of wretchedness, have a divorce suit, pack two trunks, and then go different ways to the end of the earth.

Let there be a home, where household treasures can be gathered, household pleasures enjoyed, the comforts and conveniences of life preserved, and where God can give prosperity, and fruitfulness, and peace, and gladness.

Let the home be not a goddess home; let it be a place of prayer or worship, of praise. Let there be church in the house, and the Lord who loves "the tents of Jacob" will deign to bless the abodes of His people, and crown them with His grace, His mercy, and His peace.

From such homes go forth men strong to fight the battle of life, women wise and gentle for all gracious ministries, and children that are like corner-stones, polished after the similitude of a palace.—*The Christian.*

The Magic of Silence.
You have often heard, "It takes two to make a quarrel." To you believe it? I'll tell you how one of my little friends managed. Dolly never came to see Marjorie without a quarrel. Marjorie tried to speak gently; but no matter how hard she tried Dolly would finally make her so angry that she would soon speak sharp words too. "Oh, what shall I do?" cried poor little Marjorie. "Suppose you try," said her mamma. "The plan is this: time Dolly comes in, seat yourself in front of the fire and take the tongue in your hand. Whenever a sharp word comes from Dolly gently snap the tongue without speaking a word!" Soon afterward in marched Dolly to see her little friend. It was not a quarter of an hour before Dolly's temper got ruffled, and her voice was raised, as usual she began to scold, and scold. Marjorie flew to the hearth and seized the tongue, snapping them gently. More angry words from Dolly. Snap went the tongue. More still. Snap. "Why don't you speak?" screamed Dolly in a fury. Snap went the tongue. "Speak!" she said. Snap was the only answer. "I'll never come again, never!" cried Dolly. Away she went. Did she keep her promise? No, indeed! she came the next day, but seeing Marjorie run for the tongue, she solemnly said, if she would only let them alone they would quarrel no more forever and ever.—*Golden Age.*

The Government's Mail.
The Government of the United States receives daily an average of 50,000 letters, which, as a rule, are answered, or their receipt acknowledged, on the day of delivery. To enable it to cope with the vast correspondence, much of which requires not simply a formal reply but considerable research and special knowledge, the Executive is furnished with about 10,000 clerks, who, for convenience, are divided into seven departments, according as their work has to do with our foreign relations, the army or navy, the fiscal machinery of the government, its internal relations, the postal service, or the administration of justice. Two or three sacks only, out of the tons of mail matter that is dumped every morning on the floor of the Washington post-office, go to the White House.

The Washington post-office is the third in the country in the volume of business, though Washington is only the fourteenth city in population. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885, the letters received were in excess of 250,000,000, or about 70,000 daily, and of this total, it is estimated, about 70 per cent goes to the departments. The rest of the mail is even larger, for the outgoing delivery includes all the publications of the Government, Statistics in this field would be staggering. On some days, for instance, during the busy days of Congress, 2,000 large sacks, mostly of Executive documents, will pass through the office, and the average for the summer months is 20,000 sacks a month.

The heaviest mail generally goes to the Postoffice Department, due to the routine correspondence between the departments and the 50,000 postmasters of the country. Each postmaster has occasion to write at least four letters each quarter to the department, thus involving a mass of 200,000 letters every ninety days, or more than 2,000 a day for this cause alone. Then there is an equal volume of business in the Dead Letter Bureau, where all unclaimed, misdirected, or unintelligible letters are sent. The other two departments that receive enormous mails are the Interior and the Treasury. The mails for the Pension Bureau of the Interior alone often mount into the thousands.—*Paper World.*

TESTING THE FOOD OF PARIS.—The food and drink sold in Paris are tested at a public laboratory, concerning the work of which a report has just been issued by the French Academy of Sciences. The laboratory was first opened in 1878, and specimens of wine, beer, cider, milk, chocolate, coffee, tea, etc., are examined daily; as are also colors used for toys and confectionery, pork suspected of containing trichinae, and tinned meats. Some samples are brought by the public, but most of them are obtained by inspectors employed to visit the taverns and grocers' shops and examine the articles offered for sale. There are twenty-five chemists attached to the laboratory, each of whom has his own special department, one taking milk, another wine, and so on. Part of each sample is kept as evidence in case adulteration should be found. About 25,000 analyses a year are made, at a cost of about \$40,000.

Never turn the misfortunes of others into ridicule.

Be prompt and punctual in all your engagements.

The Joint Snake.
TRINITY COLLEGE, N. C., March 20.—I wish to say to you a few words about the joint snake, for what has been said in your excellent paper is a great measure incorrect. There is a joint snake. I know no better name for it. I made it a study for 12 years. I can find but little said in our libraries pertaining to the reptile. The joint snake is often three feet long, of dark brown color, with stripes of green and white, shading off to white underneath. I never saw one with black and white spots on it. The tail does not break on account of being thick with a stick. If you will gently place a stick on or near its head, the moment it feels it, fast it throws itself into coils and breaks into pieces at joints, and nowhere else. It breaks square across. On one piece there are two cartilages or bones projecting an eighth of an inch in length, and about the same distance apart. On the other piece, that joined it there is a tendon of the same kind that fits in between the other two pieces. If you place these two pieces together they remain together and look like they had never been separated. There is not one particle of blood connected with this process; all white and smooth except as mentioned above.

What I know about them is from observation. I have seen dozens of them during the space of 12 years. I have repeatedly left the pieces where they broke, marked the spot, and on returning after a few hours, could never find one of the pieces. What became of them? I have made several break of a season by putting a rake on them near the head. I never saw one except in a meadow. On the next year I would still find several and make them break again. I never saw one, after I let it go, with its tail off, either that season or any successive one. I never saw one whose tail was not about two-thirds of the length of the body. I never saw one in the process of healing or in the process of employment of restoring itself by any method of growing or elongation. I have seen several stump tail lizards. Joint snakes are very timid and will not come to light. While you are about taking all this in consideration, what do you suppose came of the pieces? What becomes of the stump tailed snake that nobody ever sees again? You are driven to you go in the neighborhood of rocky fields, produced, springs forth full grown, like Minerva from Jupiter's brain.

Others may call the joint snake a hoax; if they wish to. Gallileo was called a hoax because he adhered to the idea that the earth revolved upon its axis. He is not so called now. Our patriots go wabbling off with one wing broken, and you go in the neighborhood of her brood. What does she break her wing for? It is all right when you get away. The joint snakes break in pieces for protection, and that he should ever after be a cripple or an invalid for life of his own accord is not the way nature does things. It is too ridiculous to believe. There is but one conclusion we can come to, and that is this: the whole story is a grand hoax. My cousin's uncle said over in South Carolina was correct.—*L. I. in Atlanta Constitution.*

The Truth About Joint Snakes.
There have been several pieces of late published about the joint snake. After reading them I concluded to tell you what I know about this snake. In Chester county, S. C., on Big Rocky Creek, about two miles southeast from McAuley's Mills, I found one of these reptiles. I concluded to experiment on it. I struck it on the tail with my fishing pole. The tail broke in four or five pieces, and showed signs of life for a minute or two, and then lay still; the head part went off. I left the pieces as they broke off. The next day I went back to the place where I left them, and found the ants eating them. A few days after my experiment, I was passing by the same place and near by I found a joint snake without a tail. In Talladega county, Alabama, at a place called Marble Spring Academy, seven miles northeast of the town or battle-ground, the boys were at the spring at daylight, when one of them found a strange-looking snake, and called the other boys to see it. When I saw it I told them it was a joint snake, and that if they struck it on the tail, which broke in several pieces, which continued to move for some time and then lay still. The head part ran off. The next day we went back to the place where we left the pieces, and found the ants eating them. Some days after our experiment one of the boys found a joint snake near the same place, without a tail. I have seen a great many joint snakes in South Carolina and Alabama, but never knew one to come together after it had been broken to pieces. Neither have I found any one else who had. If those snakes can unite after they are broken to pieces they possess a power that belongs to no other creature.—*Rev. F. A. Howe, Lucy Depot, Tenn.*

WHAT THEY DO WITH HIM.—The English sparrow in his native land is captured by the thousand for the penny bounty paid by the farmer for each dozen heads. His feet being also removed, he is extensively served in the London restaurants as a lark. He is boiled with breakfast under a salted tail, or is fried and served in a Dutch oven with a slice of bacon over his breast, or carried and served with rice, or baked in a potato.

The following men of letters are not college bred, but derived their education from common schools and the newspapers: Walt Whitman, of New York; W. W. Bridge, of Field, Parson, Bayard, Taylor, Hart, Eggleston, Howells, James, Aldrich, Lathrop, Stockton, Platt, Cable, Crawford, Fawcett, Gilder, Harris, Carleton, Mark Twain, Stoddard, and Burroughs.

CAUGHT HIM.—In a trap baited with a live goose, a farmer in Harnett county, N. C., recently captured a bald eagle, whose wings measured 10 feet from tip to tip. The bird had been ravaging the vicinity for many weeks, carrying off large numbers of poultry and sheep.

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